

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter that Applicants regard as the invention.

Applicants note that Japanese documents 7-100649 and 2002-172574 are indicated as “not considered by the examiner” on applicants’ IDS dated April 7, 2006. However, the Japanese documents have been cited on form PTO-892 (part of Paper No. 20070926). Applicants appreciate the Examiner’s consideration of the Japanese documents.

Claim 4 has been amended and is now written in independent form. Accordingly, no new issues are raised by the amendment to claim 4. Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe in view of Hirayama. Claim 4 requires a display means for displaying, among other things, a sampling cycle. The Office action does not address this limitation in the rejection of claim 4. Indeed, the combination of Watanabe and Hirayama fails to teach the display of a sampling cycle. Watanabe does discuss data obtained by sampling an actual welding current at every predetermined sampling period to be recorded as ASCII data in a time series (3:62-64). Although *the data* is displayed, Watanabe does not teach that the predetermined sampling period is displayed. Applicants submit that the combination of Watanabe and Hirayama fails to teach or otherwise render foreseeable all of the limitations of claim 4. Therefore, the Office action fails to establish a *prima facie* case for obviousness for claim 4, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Watanabe. Amended claim 1 recites, “recording means for recording a total number of short circuits

occurring during a given period and...display means for displaying said total number of short circuits along with a sampling cycle for the waveform data while graphically displaying the waveform data recorded in the recording means.” Watanabe does not teach recording and displaying a total number of short circuits, and Watanabe does not teach displaying a sampling cycle for waveform data. Therefore, Watanabe cannot teach displaying a total number of short circuits *along with* a sampling cycle for waveform data *while* graphically displaying the waveform data. Applicants submits that claim 1 and dependent claims 2 and 3 are allowable over Watanabe, and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe and further in view of Ivkovich. Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe in view of JP07-100649A. Claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe and JP07-100649A and further in view of Bong. Claims 5-8 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

New claim 9 has been added. Claim 9 requires a teach pendant for displaying data including a total number of short circuits occurring, a welding current instruction value, a welding current output value, a welding voltage instruction value, a welding voltage output value, a welding speed, a wire feed speed, and a wire feed motor current while displaying a sampling cycle, wherein a numerical value and unit for the sampling cycle can be set from the teach pendant. The prior art of record fails to teach such a teach pendant.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the

application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. NGB-40145.

Respectfully submitted,
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